

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 through 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (previously presented): A cooking apparatus capable of supplying steam to a heating chamber with an object to be heated stored therein, comprising:

a heating chamber interior heater, for heating the interior of the heating chamber;

a steam supplier, supplying steam into the heating chamber;

a heating chamber temperature detector, detecting the temperature of the interior of the heating chamber; and

a control part, including a compare and judge portion for comparing the detected temperature with a reference temperature and controlling the heating chamber interior heater and the steam supplier;

wherein the control part, based on a command generated by the compare and judge portion controls the heating chamber interior heater and the steam supplier to thereby be able to maintain the heating chamber interior temperature at a given heat retaining temperature suitable for keeping the object to be warm and moist.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein, while measuring the temperature of the interior of the heating chamber or the temperature of the object to be heated, the control part controls the heating chamber interior heater and the steam supplier based on the temperature detected by the heating chamber interior temperature detector to thereby keep the object to be warm and moist.

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein, after passage of the given time, information is given using an informer.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein the steam supplier comprises an evaporation dish and a storage part heating part disposed downwardly of the evaporation dish.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 9, wherein, after passage of the given time, the output of the storage part heating part is turned down to adjust the amount of supply of water for steam.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 9, wherein, after passage of the given time, the output of the storage part heating part is intermittently turned on and off to adjust the amount of supply of water for steam while maintaining the heat retaining state.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein the control part controls the heating chamber interior heater and the steam supplier according to a predetermined time scheme to thereby keep the object to be warm and moist.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein up to the given time, the control part controls the heating chamber interior heater to increase the heating chamber interior temperature to a given heat retaining temperature, and the control part controls the steam supplier to supply steam into the heating chamber at a first amount per minute while maintaining the given heat retaining temperature, and then after passage of the given time, the control part controls the steam supplier to supply steam into the heating chamber at a second amount per minute, which is lower than the first amount per minute while maintaining the given heat retaining temperature by the heater.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein the heating chamber temperature detector is an infrared sensor.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A cooking apparatus capable of supplying steam to a heating chamber with an object to be heated stored therein, comprising:

a heating chamber interior heater, for heating the interior of the heating chamber;

wherein the heating chamber interior heater comprises a convection heater, a magnetron, and at least one another heater;

a steam supplier, supplying steam into the heating chamber;

a heating chamber temperature detector, detecting the temperature of the interior of the heating chamber;

a control part, controlling the heating chamber interior temperature detector and the steam supplier; and

a fan;

wherein the control part controls the heating chamber interior heater, steam supplier, and the fan to thereby be able to maintain the heating chamber interior temperature at a given heat retaining temperature suitable for keeping the object to be warm and moist.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 15, wherein, while measuring the temperature

of the interior of the heating chamber or the temperature of the object to be heated, the control part controls the convection heater, magnetron, heater, steam supplier, and fan, respectively, based on the temperature detected by the heating chamber interior temperature detector to thereby keep the object to be warm and moist.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 15, wherein up to a given time, the control part controls the convection heater, magnetron, heater, and fan, respectively, to increase the heating chamber interior temperature to a given heat retaining temperature, and the control part controls the steam supplier to supply steam into the heating chamber at a first given amount per minute while maintaining the given heat retaining temperature, and then after passage of the given time, the control part controls the steam supplier to supply steam into the heating chamber at a second given amount per minute, which is lower than the first given amount per minute while maintaining the given heat retaining temperature by the heater.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 15, wherein the control part controls the convection heater, magnetron, heater, steam supplier, and fan,

respectively, according to a predetermined time scheme to thereby keep the object to be warm and moist.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A cooking apparatus capable of supplying steam to a heating chamber with an object to be heated stored therein, comprising:

a heating chamber interior heater, for heating the interior of the heating chamber;

a steam supplier, supplying steam into the heating chamber;

a heating chamber temperature detector, detecting the temperature of the interior of the heating chamber; and

a control part, controlling the heating chamber interior temperature detector and the steam supplier;

wherein the control part, based on the temperature detected by the heating chamber interior temperature detector, controls the heating chamber interior heater and the steam supplier to thereby be able to maintain the heating chamber interior temperature at a given heat retaining temperature suitable for keeping the object to be warm and moist,

wherein the heating chamber temperature detector is an infrared sensor.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 19, wherein up to a given time, the control part controls the heating chamber interior heater to increase

the heating chamber interior temperature to a given heat retaining temperature, and the control part controls the steam supplier to supply steam into the heating chamber at a first amount per minute while maintaining the given heat retaining temperature, and then after passage of the given time, the control part controls the steam supplier to supply steam into the heating chamber at a second amount per minute, which is lower than the first amount per minute while maintaining the given heat retaining temperature by the heater.

Claim 21 (new): The cooking apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein said compare and judge portion compares the detected temperature of the interior of the heating chamber with a reference temperature.